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Letter dated 4 October 2010 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

Pursuant to Security Council resolutions 1575 (2004), 1639 (2005), 1722 (2006), 1785 (2007), 1845 (2008) and 1895 (2009), I have the honour to convey the attached letters dated 14 April 2010 and 7 September 2010, which I received from the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, transmitting the twenty-first and twenty-second quarterly reports on the activities of the European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (see annexes). The reports cover the periods from 1 December 2009 to 28 February 2010 and from 1 March to 31 May 2010, respectively.

I should be grateful if you would bring these letters to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

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Annex I

Letter dated 14 April 2010 from the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with the provisions of Security Council resolutions 1575 (2004), 1639 (2005), 1722 (2006), 1785 (2007), 1845 (2008) and 1895 (2009), I attach the twenty-first quarterly report on the activities of the European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (see enclosure). The report covers the period from 1 December 2009 to 28 February 2010.

I should be grateful if you would transmit this report to the President of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Catherine **Ashton**

Enclosure

Report of the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy on the activities of the European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina

I. Introduction

1. This report covers the period from 1 December 2009 to 28 February 2010.

2. The Security Council, in its resolutions 1575 (2004), 1639 (2005), 1722 (2006), 1785 (2007), 1845 (2008) and 1895 (2009), requested that Member States, acting through or in cooperation with the European Union, report to the Council on the activities of the European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR), through the appropriate channels and at least at three-monthly intervals. This document is the twenty-first such report.

II. Political background

3. Although significant progress was achieved on implementing the road map for visa liberalization, overall there was little progress in addressing key reforms. In particular, little progress was made by the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the five objectives and two conditions that remain necessary for the closure of the Office of the High Representative. Moreover, the general political environment continued to worsen. There was a steady decline in dialogue between political leaders, coupled with an increase in divisive statements from the Republika Srpska and inter-ethnic disputes in the Federation.

4. Challenges to the General Framework Agreement for Peace continued. In particular, the Republika Srpska refused to comply with the High Representative's decisions of December 2009. On occasions, Republika Srpska political leaders also called into question the integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina as a State.

5. In the Federation, tensions continued over key appointments in the Government, the judiciary and a number of Federation institutions. The Federation Government appears to have averted a severe budget crisis through Parliamentary approval of structural reform measures on 25 February, thus assuring compliance with the conditions set by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). During the reporting period, Mostar City Council finally chose a mayor and adopted a budget, thereby ending a 14-month standoff, but only after the High Representative's executive decision.

6. The Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights issued its final judgement in the *Sejdic and Finci* case on 22 December. The Court ruled that the exclusion of those not declaring themselves Bosniak, Croat or Serb (i.e., a member of one of the constituent peoples) from running for election to the House of Peoples and the Presidency amounted to direct and unjustifiable ethnic and racial discrimination. The relevant authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina have taken initial steps to implement this decision.

7. Limited progress was made on the fulfilment of the outstanding requirements set by the Steering Board of the Peace Implementation Council for the transition from the Office of the High Representative to the European Union Special Representative. The State property conducted under the auspices of the Office of the

High Representative was completed, but no progress was made by the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the apportionment of the property. As a result, the Steering Board, at its meeting on 24 and 25 February, expressed serious concern about the insufficient progress that the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina had made in delivering the five objectives and two conditions and urged the country's politicians to increase their efforts. The Steering Board welcomed progress achieved on addressing the conditions for visa liberalization.

8. Economic indicators continue to demonstrate the adverse impact that the global economic crisis is having on Bosnia and Herzegovina. To mitigate the effects of the crisis, IMF agreed in 2009 to a three-year standby arrangement worth €1.2 billion. In November, IMF reviewed the progress of Bosnia and Herzegovina in meeting the agreed benchmarks. By the end of February, State and entity authorities had adopted the legislative framework needed to comply with the IMF standby arrangement.

III. Security situation and EUFOR activities

9. The overall security situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina remained calm and stable throughout the reporting period. Although nationalistic rhetoric continued, it had no impact on the safe and secure environment. The economic downturn, poor working conditions and late payment of salaries resulted in a number of strikes in Sarajevo and other major cities. All of these were professionally and capably handled by the Bosnia and Herzegovina law enforcement agencies and had no impact on the overall security situation.

10. The force of some 2,000 troops is concentrated in Sarajevo, with liaison and observation teams deployed throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina. EUFOR continued to conduct operations in line with its mandate, namely, providing deterrence; ensuring continued compliance in relation to the responsibilities specified in the General Framework Agreement for Peace, annexes 1A and 2; and contributing to the maintenance of the safe and secure environment. EUFOR continued to support the Bosnia and Herzegovina law enforcement agencies in fighting organized crime in close cooperation with the European Union Police Mission. EUFOR also continued to support the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in the search for persons indicted for war crimes. In response to requests of the Tribunal and with the support of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and local police, EUFOR carried out search operations aimed at support networks of persons indicted for war crimes.

11. There has been further progress in the area of joint military affairs. On 19 November, EUFOR handed responsibility to the Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities for the last task in that area, civilian movement control (the control of movement of weapons and military equipment). As with other joint military affairs tasks already transferred to the Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities, EUFOR will continue to monitor, mentor and advise in order to enhance the self-sustainability of Bosnia and Herzegovina's capabilities. In this context, EUFOR monitored some 500 activities related to joint military affairs undertaken by Bosnia and Herzegovina in the areas of ammunition and weapon storage sites, civilian and military movement of weapons and military equipment, disposal of surplus weapons and ammunition, and defence industry factories. Although demining activities declined during the reporting period as a result of the adverse winter conditions, the

demining achievements of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina for 2009 were 22 per cent higher than originally planned.

12. EUFOR and the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina continued to conduct combined training in line with their joint training calendar by including specialized training elements consistent with international training requirements and standards. EUFOR conducted and participated in a number of combined capacity-building and training conferences, together with representatives of NATO and the Armed Forces.

13. In the coming months, the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina will lose 2,500 soldiers who are over the maximum age of service. Although recruitment is under way, the Armed Forces may experience some medium-term manpower shortages, exacerbated by the requirement to guard military sites. This will be alleviated once surplus ammunition and weapons are disposed of, thus allowing some sites to be closed.

14. On 25 January 2010, the Council of the European Union assessed the political environment and security situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina and agreed to continue reviewing political developments. The Council also assessed Operation Althea and decided to start providing the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina with non-executive capacity-building and training support within the framework of the Operation. The Council stated that Althea's executive mandate would continue in accordance with Security Council resolution 1895 (2009). It also underlined the commitment of the European Union to supporting Bosnia and Herzegovina's efforts to maintain a safe and secure environment and expressed the readiness of the European Union, should the situation require, to maintain an executive military role to support these efforts beyond 2010, under a United Nations mandate.

IV. Outlook

15. The security situation is expected to remain stable despite the prospects of continuing political tension.

Annex II

Letter dated 7 September 2010 from the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with the provisions of Security Council resolutions 1575 (2004), 1639 (2005), 1722 (2006), 1785 (2007), 1845 (2008) and 1895 (2009), I attach the twenty-second quarterly report on the activities of the European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (see enclosure). The report covers the period from 1 March to 31 May 2010.

I should be grateful if you would transmit this report to the President of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Catherine **Ashton**

Enclosure

Report of the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy on the activities of the European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina

I. Introduction

1. This report covers the period 1 March to 31 May 2010.

2. Security Council resolutions 1575 (2004), 1639 (2005), 1722 (2006), 1785 (2007), 1845 (2008) and 1895 (2009) request that Member States, acting through or in cooperation with the European Union, report to the Council on the activities of European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR), through the appropriate channels and at least at three-monthly intervals. This document is the twenty-second such report.

II. Political background

3. During the reporting period, presidential and parliamentary elections were officially announced for 3 October. During the ongoing electoral campaign, a lack of political dialogue and consensus, and divisive and nationalist rhetoric, continue to undermine the reform process.

4. Further progress was made, however, on addressing the conditions for visa liberalization with the European Union. On 27 May, the European Commission adopted a proposal enabling citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina to travel to Schengen countries without needing a visa. The proposal is conditional on Bosnia and Herzegovina fulfilling three outstanding requirements.

5. On 22 April, Foreign Ministers of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) invited Bosnia and Herzegovina to join the membership action plan. However, acceptance of Bosnia and Herzegovina's first Annual National Programme depends on resolution of the issue of immovable defence property. The issue is also one of the objectives defined by the Peace Implementation Council for closure of the Office of the High Representative.

6. Bosnia and Herzegovina's relations with the region continued to develop positively. Both Serbia's President, Boris Tadic and Croatia's newly elected President, Ivo Josipovic, visited Bosnia and Herzegovina in April and May, at which time they urged moderation, pressed for reconciliation and publicly supported Bosnia and Herzegovina's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

7. Otherwise, there has been limited progress towards adopting and implementing necessary reforms. The December 2009 European Court of Human Rights ruling — which requires amendments to the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina with a view to removing constitutional discrimination against the non-constituent peoples and their right to stand for election and appointment to important State-level institutions — has not yet been implemented. Nor has a State-wide census law, a key European Union requirement, been adopted. Limited progress has been made towards meeting the outstanding requirements set by the Steering Board of the Peace Implementation Council for closure of the Office of the High Representative

III. Security situation and EUFOR activities

8. The overall security situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina remained calm and stable throughout the reporting period. Although nationalistic rhetoric persisted, it had no impact on the safe and secure environment. The unfavourable economic situation, together with late payment of salaries, resulted in a number of strikes in Sarajevo and other major cities. These were handled professionally and capably by Bosnia and Herzegovina's law enforcement agencies and had no impact on the overall security situation. The most serious event was a demonstration arranged by Bosnia and Herzegovina war veterans and disabled people in April in Sarajevo. According to EUFOR observations, this involved some 2,000 demonstrators. Clashes occurred between police and demonstrators. About 60 people, including 15 policemen, are reported to have been injured.

9. The force of some 2,000 EUFOR troops is concentrated in Sarajevo, with liaison and observation teams deployed throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina. EUFOR continued to conduct operations in line with its mandates, namely, providing deterrence; ensuring continued compliance in relation to the responsibilities specified in the General Framework Agreement for Peace, annexes 1A and 2; and contributing to the maintenance of the safe and secure environment. EUFOR continued to support the Bosnia and Herzegovina law enforcement agencies in fighting organized crime, in close cooperation with the European Union Police Mission. EUFOR also continued to stand ready to support the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in the search for persons indicted for war crimes.

10. As previously reported, on 25 January 2010 the Council of the European Union decided to start providing the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina with non-executive capacity-building and training support within the framework of Operation Althea. Preparatory planning for these activities was launched during the reporting period and implementation is expected to commence in July 2010.

11. EUFOR and the Armed Forces continued to conduct combined training in accordance with their joint training calendar by including specialized training elements. In line with international training requirements and standards, EUFOR conducted and participated in a number of combined capacity-building and training conferences together with NATO and Armed Forces representatives, in order to deconflict training activities provided by international partners.

12. EUFOR continued to monitor, mentor and advise in order to enhance the self-sustainability of Bosnia and Herzegovina's capabilities. In this context, EUFOR monitored activities related to ammunition and weapons storage sites, civilian and military movement of weapons and military equipment, disposal of surplus weapons and ammunition, and defence industry factories. Demining activities have also continued. According to the Bosnia and Herzegovina mine action strategy (2009-2019), the territory should be free of mines by 2019.

IV. Outlook

13. The security situation is expected to remain stable, despite the prospect of continuing political tension.